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IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for entering system firmware recovery mode for use with a computer system having one or more buttons and a flash memory, the method comprising the steps of:

detecting status of at least two software-detectable buttons at power-on of the computer system;

distinguishing between normal use of the at least two software-detectable buttons and as firmware recovery buttons; and

initiating system firmware recovery mode upon detecting the status of the at least two software-detectable buttons.

2. (Previously Submitted) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the at least two software-detectable buttons include power and sleep buttons.

3. (Original) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the detecting step comprises reading a predetermined device register.

4. (Original) The method recited in Claim 3 wherein the predetermined device register comprises a PM1a_CNT register.

5. (Original) The method recited in Claim 3 wherein the predetermined device register comprises a PWR-LVL register.

6. (Original) The method recited in Claim 2 wherein the distinguishing step comprises holding down both the power button and the sleep button at power-on.

7. (Previously Submitted) The method recited in Claim 2, wherein the distinguishing step comprises:

selectively holding down the power or sleep button at power-on for a predetermined time period; and

providing an indication to release the selected button.

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8. (Previously Submitted) The method recited in Claim 2 wherein the distinguishing step comprises holding down a platform-specific button instead of or in combination with power and sleep buttons at power-on.
9. (Original) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the computer system further comprises a disk drive and wherein the initiating step comprises reprogramming the flash memory using the disk drive.
10. (Original) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the computer system further comprises an input/output port and wherein the initiating step comprises reprogramming the flash memory using the input/output port.
11. (Previously Submitted) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the computer system further comprises a disk drive and an input/output port and wherein the initiating step comprises reprogramming the flash memory using both the disk drive and the input/output port.
12. (Previously Submitted) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the distinguishing step comprises simultaneously holding down the at least two software-detectable buttons.
13. (Previously Submitted) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the distinguishing step comprises holding down the at least two software-detectable buttons in a predetermined sequence.
14. (New) A method for entering system firmware recovery mode for use with a computer system, comprising:
- detecting a power button and a sleep button being depressed simultaneously at power-on; and
 - initiating system firmware recovery mode in response to the depressed power and sleep buttons.

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15. (New) The method recited in Claim 14, wherein the computer system further includes a disk drive and a flash memory, and wherein system initiating further includes reprogramming the flash memory using the disk drive.
16. (New) The method recited in Claim 14, wherein the computer system further includes a disk drive, a flash memory and an input/output port, and wherein system initiating further includes reprogramming the flash memory using at least one of the disk drive and the input/output port.
17. (New) The method recited in Claim 14, wherein the computer system further includes a disk drive, a flash memory and an input/output port, and wherein system initiating further includes reprogramming the flash memory using both the disk drive and the input/output port.